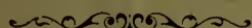


ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1894.



RODERIC LOGAN, M.R.C.S. ENG.,

Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1895.

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ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH,

January 25th, 1895.

*To the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural Sanitary
Authority.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the instructions of the Local Government Board, I have the honour to present you with my Report for the period of my appointment during 1894.

For the better information of your Board and the maintenance of continuous records, I have, to the best of my ability, dealt with the whole year 1894. I have, unfortunately, been unable to obtain complete data of the first ten months of the year. The tabular statements of births and deaths relate only to the last two

months, the records of your late Medical Officer of Health being lost. I have no notes of work done by him during the first ten months of the year.

The tabular statements of new cases of infectious disease relate to the whole year.

In consequence of the new division of your District, I have dealt with the two divisions separately.

Births
Whole District,
two months.

The number of births in the whole District during November and December have been 107—60 males and 47 females —giving a birth rate for those months of 6·04 per thousand of the population estimated at 17,722.

Population.

The estimate of population is taken from your Annual Report for 1893.

Hartshorne
and Measham
Division,
two months.

For the Hartshorne and Measham Division, situate in Derbyshire, the births were 49—23 males and 26 females—giving a birth rate of 6·55 per thousand in a population of 7171 for the two months.

Leicestershire
Division,
two months.

In the new Ashby Rural District the births were 37 males and 21 females—

giving a birth rate of 5·49 per thousand for population of 10,551.

Deaths,
Whole District,
two months.

The number of deaths at all ages and from all causes in the whole District during November and December have been 34—giving a death rate for that period of 1·92 per thousand of population estimated at 17,722.

Hartshorne
and Measham
Division,
Population 7171.

In the Hartshorne and Measham Division there have been 21 deaths—15 males and 6 females—giving a death rate of 2·93 per thousand for the two months.

Leicestershire
Division,
Population
10,551.

In the Leicestershire or new Ashby Rural District there have been 13 deaths—5 males and 8 females—giving a death rate of 1·23 per thousand for the two months.

With such limited details it is useless to compare with former years.

Two deaths have occurred from Diphtheria and two from Whooping Cough during November and December. These are the only deaths from Zymotic Disease during that period.

Whole District,
Zymotic Disease,
1894.

Three hundred and thirty-three cases of Infectious Disease have been notified during

the year. Of these, the large number of 284 are from Scarlet Fever, as shewn below:

	Whole District.	1894	1893
Scarlet Fever	...	284	...
Diphtheria	...	8	...
Croup	...	1	...
Enteric Fever	...	11	...
Puerperal Fever	...	1	...
Erysipelas	...	24	...
Small Pox	...	4	...
Totals	...	333	110

Hartshorne
and Measham
Division.

In the Hartshorne and Measham Division there were 135 cases of Infectious Disease.

Leicestershire
Division.

In the new Ashby Rural District there were 198 cases of Infectious Disease.

Infectious Disease. Comparative Tables.	Hartshorne and Measham Division.			Leicestershire Division.
	Scarlet Fever	116	...	168
Diphtheria	...	0	...	8
Croup	...	1	...	0
Enteric Fever	...	6	...	5
Puerperal Fever	0	1
Erysipelas	...	12	...	12
Small Pox	...	0	...	4
Totals	...	135	—	198

Distribution
amongst
Parishes.

Hartshorne
and Measham
Division.

Leicestershire
Division.

The appended tabular statement shews the distribution of these cases in the various parishes of the two Districts separately where marked prevalence of any Infectious Disease has occurred, the parishes of Measham, Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe being the worst in the Hartshorne and Measham Division, those of Coleorton, Swannington, Heather and Snarestone in the Leicestershire Division.

It will be seen from the above statements that Scarlet Fever has been unusually prevalent in the whole District, and that its distribution has been fairly general. Eight cases only have been removed to the Isolation Hospital. All of these have been discharged cured and free from infection. There is amongst the poorest classes a great disinclination to have the cases removed, but in every case that has been removed entire satisfaction has been expressed by the patients or their friends with the result. I mention this because it leads me to hope that as time goes on the benefits of an Isolation Hospital will be clearly seen by the majority of the poorer classes, and when this takes place we shall be far better able to check the spread of Infectious Disease.

In the village of Snarestone 3 cases of Diphtheria have occurred up to January 1, 1895. I made three systematic inspections of the village and found numerous defects in the sanitary arrangements, especially in the area in which the "Globe" Inn stands. Notices were at once sent to owners to remedy various serious defects, and these had just been taken in hand when the severe weather set in, and prevented completion. The need for these improvements has been clearly shewn, for up to the date of this report 6 cases of Diphtheria have occurred in this very area.

Closure of
Schools.

Two Schools have been closed to check the spread of Scarlet Fever, namely, Measham National School by Dr. Kyle, and Heather National School by myself, acting under your authority, during the year. The result was satisfactory in both cases.

Small Pox.

With regard to the outbreak of Small Pox at Newton Burgoland, I have no information as to its cause. All the cases were removed to Swannington Hospital at once, and all recovered.

Water
and Drainage.

In the last Annual Report attention was called to the unsatisfactory water supply

of Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe. A new well for the use of Oakthorpe parish has been sunk, and a good supply obtained so far. A Filtration Tank has been placed in Donisthorpe to intercept the sewage of a portion of the parish, and prevent the pollution of the stream running through the village.

Two sewer extensions have been made in Measham and a system of Tanks for the reception of sewage have been provided.

Notices.

Nineteen Notices have been served on owners and occupiers for abatement of Nuisances arising from dirty and dilapidated houses, defective closets, drains, cess-pools and accumulations of offensive matter in the Derbyshire portion of the Division, and 47 of the same in the Leicestershire Division; also 48 Notices have been served upon owners under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, to provide their premises with a supply of water. Most of these notices have been already complied with.

Derbyshire.

Leicestershire.

Whole District.

Three samples of Water have been submitted to the County Analyst, none of these have been condemned.

Fifty-seven Plans have been approved for new dwellings, namely, 34 in the Leicestershire Division and 23 in the Hartshorne and Measham.

Sixteen Plans have been passed for extension of privy accommodation.

I have, during the six weeks of my actual appointment, visited most of the Parishes in the District, and have made house to house inspections of a number of insanitary areas. All cases of Zymotic Disease have been visited by me, and full instructions as to precautionary measures given. Notices have been sent by me to both National and Sunday Schools in all cases of Scarlet Fever to prevent admission of children from the infected houses.

As regards the Sanitary condition of the District at the close of the year, I am glad to state that there is a slight but steady decrease of Scarlet Fever during the last month.

In conclusion, I would repeat the recommendation of your late Medical Officer of Health as to the adoption of the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, as a means

of dealing, when necessary, with the reckless disregard of a certain class of the isolation, disinfection, &c., of cases of Infectious Disease.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RODERIC LOGAN, M.R.C.S. ENG.,

Medical Officer of Health.

